National Proverbs

Scotland

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S4N3

IRVING H. CAMERON
307 SHERBORNE ST.
TORONTO

Mamie,

With best Christmas

wishes from Florence

1917.

IRVING H. CAMERON
307 SHERBORNE ST.
TORONTO

NATIONAL PROVERBS

SCOTLAND

Uniform with this Volume

ENGLAND
IRELAND
RUSSIA
JAPAN
CHINA
HOLLAND
ARABIA
SERVIA
BELGIUM
FRANCE (in two Languages)
SPAIN do.
ITALY do.

Others in Preparation

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SCOTLAND

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THE Proverbs of a nation are not only an epitome of its wisdom, but crystallise for us much of its national temperament and popular habits of thought. In no other form, perhaps, can the national traits be so compactly presented as in these saws and proverbs. This is particularly true of Scotland, and, in the following pages, the vices and virtues of the Scots peep out from every line. In the preparation of this collection the utmost care has been taken to unearth those Proverbs which are in danger of falling into disuse and are not widely known. The commonplace Proverbs have in most cases been rejected; little known sources have been investigated, and every possible effort made to get the cream of the available material. A word of explanation is, perhaps, needed as to the different forms of spelling adopted. Some readers may complain that occasionally the full breadth of dialect in the original has not been suggested. We must remind such readers, however, that such a course would have resulted in the book being entirely unintelligible to English readers, who would have been discouraged by the necessity for translating word by word. In its present form it is hoped that, without mutilating the original too wantonly, the collection will appeal to both English and Scotch readers. For the assistance of the former, a complete Glossary has been appended. The editors will be very grateful to hear of any good and little-known Proverbs which readers may be able to communicate.

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National Proverbs

SWEET i' the bed, and sweer up i' the morning was ne'er a guid housewife.

A' are guid lasses, but whaur do the ill wives come frae?

A blind man's wife needs nae painting.

War makes thieves and peace hangs them.

Scottish

Ye come o' the M'Taks, but no o' the M'Gies.

The hecht o' nonsense is suppin' soor dook wi' a fork.

Want o' wit is waur than want o' wealth.

Poor folk seek meat for their stamacks and rich folk stamacks for their meat.

Richt wrangs nae man.

National Proverbs

Quick at meat, quick at wark.

A houndless hunter and a gunless shooter aye see routh o' game.

Ill workers are aye guid on-lookers.

He that owns the soo shud stick nearest the tail.

Gie your tongue mair holidays than your head.

A traveller may lee wi' authority.

Scottish

Naebody's sweetheart's ugly.

Naething's got wi'out pains save dirt and lang nails.

Pay beforehand's ne'er weel served.

Some hae a hantle faults, ye are only a ne'er-do-well.

It's the mou' that maks the coo.

He slippit awa like a knotless thread.

A' ills are guid untried.

National Proverbs

God send ye mair sense and me mair siller.

As weel be oot o' the warld as oot o' the fashion.

A green Yule makes a grey kirk-yard.

Ye'll ne'er be auld wi sae muckle honesty.

They have need o' a canny cook that have only one egg to dinner.

Scottish

He drives a good waggon-load into his farm that gets a good wife.

You are best when ye're sleepin'.

He that's scant o' wind shoudna middle wi' the chanter.

Kent fouk's nae company.

He was missed by the water but caught by the widdy.

Double drinks are good for drouth.

National Proverbs

The thrift o' you and the woo' o' a blue dog would mak a braw web.

Better thole a grumph than a sumph.

Eaten meat is ill to pay.

Better a guid coo than a coo o' a guid kind.

He's like a flea in a blanket, aye jumpin'.

Scottish

They are free wi' their horse that hae nane.

If the auld wife hadna been in the oven she ne'er would hae thocht o' seeking her dochter there.

Be lang sick that ye may be sune hale.

Eith keepin' the castle that's no besieged.

After cheese, naething.

National Proverbs

You would be a sweet nut if you were well cracked.

Please yoursel' an' you'll aye please somebody.

Ye hae fasted lang an' worried an a midge.

Quality without quantity is little thocht o'.

It's lang till ye cry shoo to an egg.

Scottish

If it werena' for the belly the back wad wear gold.

Naething to be done in haste but grippin' fleas.

It gangs as muckle into my heart as my heel.

It's a dry tale that doesna end in a drink.

He'll glower at the mune till he fa' in the midden.

Ye hae put a toom spoon in my mouth.

Ye'll beguile nane but them that lippens till ye.

Ye'll follow him lang till he lets five shillings fall.

Ye'll neither dance nor haud the can'le.

A body lives long after they're laughed at.

Scottish

Your fortune's coming wi' the blin' carrier.

Bitin' an' scartin' is Scots'-folk's wooin'.

He rises ower-early that is hangit ere noon.

Mony purses haud freens the-gither.

He that hews abune his head may get a spail in his e'e.

National Proverbs

They were scant o' bairns that brocht you up.

Ae fine thing needs twa to set it aff.

A' complain o' want o' siller, nane complain o' want o' wit.

Ye wad dae little for God an' the de'il were dead.

Words are but wind, but dunts are the de'il.

Scottish

A partridge frichted is hauf-cooked.

Ye're a guid seeker, but an ill finder.

All bite the bitten dog.

Ye're nae chicken for a yer cheepin'.

A winkin' cats' no aye blin'.

Ye're sair fashed wi' haudin' naethin' thegither.

National Proverbs

Ane may like the kirk weel eneuch an' no be aye ridin' on the riggin' o't.

Bonnie birds are aye the warst singers.

An ill-willy coo should hae short horns.

Dinna speak o' a rope tae a chiel wha's father was hanged.

A dog wi' a bone kens nae freens.

Scottish

He maun find faut that canna mend.

Naething sae bauld as a blin' mare.

Please yersel' and ye'll no dee i' the pet.

An ill wife an' a new-kindled candle should hae their heids hadden doon.

Bocht wit maks folk wise.

National Proverbs

A mote in a gunner's eye is as bad as a spike in the gun.

Dinna tie a knot wi' yer tongue that ye canna lowse wi' yer teeth.

Better speak bauldly oot than aye be grumphin'.

Dinna gut yer fish till ye get them.

Better say "Here it is" than "There it was."

Ane at a time is guid fishin'.

Scottish

He's been at kirk o' crackaboot where the kail pat was minister.

Fleying a bird is no the way to grip it.

Better a wee ingle tae warm ye, than a big fire tae burn ye.

Better be the heid o' the commons than the tail o' the gentry.

He that spits against the wind spits in his ain face.

National Proverbs

Dinna lift me afore I fa'.

He that has his haun in the lion's mooth maun tak it oot the best way he can.

Ne'er tak a forehammer tae brak an egg.

He was scant o' news that said his faither was hanged.

He'll gang mad on a horse wha's prood on a powney.

Scottish

Butter's king o' a' creish.

Dinna tell yer fae when yer fit sleeps.

Count like Jews an' gree like brethren.

Better short and sweet than long and lax.

He that does ye an ill turn will ne'er forgie ye.

It's sair tae haud drink frae drouth.

National Proverbs

He that has a muckle nose thinks ilka ane speaks o't.

Better sit still than rise an' fa'.

A prood heart in a puir breast has muckle doul tae dree.

"Near-deid" ne'er filled the kirk-yard.

Deal sma' an' serve a'.

Ne'er lippen ower much tae a new freen' or an auld enemy.

Scottish

A licht-heeled mother maks a heavy-heeled dochter.

As guid may haud the stirrup as he that loups on.

He that winna be ruled by the rudder maun be ruled by the rock.

Nae man can live langer at peace than his neebors like.

He that comes o' hens maun scrape.

National Proverbs

He that cheats me ance, shame fa' him ; he that cheats me twice, shame fa' me.

Better a finger aff than aye waggin'.

Better half hanged than ill married.

A's but lip-wit that wants experience.

Nearer the kirk the farrer frae grace.

Scottish

He that has a bonnie wife needs mair than twa e'en.

Like a Hielanman's breeks—neither shape nor fashion.

If ye gang a year wi' a cripple, ye'll limp at the end o't.

A spur in the head is worth twa in the heel.

It's the life o' an auld hat tae be well cockit.

National Proverbs

An ill servant ne'er made a gude maister.

He'll tell it tae mair than he meets.

Flit an auld tree an' it'll wither.

A thread will tie an honest man better than a rope will a knave.

A toom hand is nae lure for a hawk.

It's past jokin' when the heid's aff.

Scottish

Fules and bairns shouldna see hauf-dune wark.

Langest at the fire soonest finds cauld.

He's a causey saint an' a hoose deil.

If ye dinna see the bottom, dinna wade far oot.

Let him cool in the skin he het in.

National Proverbs

A little wit ser's a lucky man.

"Hasty" was hanged, but "Speed-o'-foot" wan awa'.

Let na the ploo stand tae kill a moose.

A' the wit i' the warld's nae in ae pow.

Ilka blade o' grass keeps its ain drap o' dew.

A shut mooth catches nae flees.

Scottish

An auld mason maks a guid barrow-man.

He maun lout that has a laigh door.

Ilka man buckles his belt his ain gait.

He ate the cow an' worried on the tail.

Guid forgie ye for gallopin' when trottin's nae a sin.

National Proverbs

He hasna as much sense as a hen could haud in her shut nieve.

An ill cook should hae a guid cleaver.

Ne'er misca' a Gordon i' the raws o' Strathbogie.

Little odds atween a feast an' a fu' wame.

A sillerless man gangs fast through the market.

Scottish

A man may woo where he may, but he maun marry where his weird is.

He's as welcome as snaw in hairst.

Bonnie cooks ne'er made guid broth.

Nineteen naysays o' a maiden is half a grant.

He's fond o' barter that niffers wi' auld Nick.

National Proverbs

Fules are fond o' a' they fore-gather wi'.

He has some wit, but a fule has the guidin' o't.

Better wear shoon than sheets.

Save yersel' frae the deil an' the laird's bairns.

Reckless youth maks ruefu' eild.

A hantle cry "Murder!" an' are aye upmaist.

Scottish

A lass that has many wooers aft wales the warst.

He has a sliddery grip that has an eel by the tail.

Fule's haste is nae speed.

A sinking master makes aft a rising man.

Freends are like fiddle-strings, they mauna be screwed ower-ticht.

A hungry wame has nae lugs.

National Proverbs

Far ahint maun follow the faster

Hunger's guid kitchen tae a cauld potato.

Rather tine your joke than tine your friend.

The best is aye best cheap.

Put yer hand twice tae yer bannet for ance tae yer pooch.

Sune eneuch tae cry "chuck" when its oot o' the shell.

Scottish

Praise withoot profit puts little in the pat.

Even a young fit finds ease in an auld bauchle.

A man canna' bear a' his kin on his back.

God send water to the well that folk think will ne'er run dry.

Farthest from the kirk aye soonest at it.

National Proverbs

Get the word o' soon risin' an' ye may lie in bed a' day.

The bairn speaks i' the field what he hears at the fireside.

Marry your son when you will and your dochter when you can.

Honest men marry soon—wise men never.

Fancy was a bonnie dog but Fortune took the tail frae 't.

Scottish

He's either a' honey or a' dirt.

Every man kens best where his ain shoe binds him.

Hang a thief when he's young an' he'll ne'er steal when he's auld.

" Hame's hamely," quo' the deil, when he found himself in the Court o' Session.

I ne'er lo'ed meat that crawed in my craigie.

National Proverbs

He that winna be counselled canna' be helped.

He that lends money to a friend has a double loss.

Glasses an' lasses are brittle ware.

Little wit in the pow that lights the candle at the lowe.

If ye sell your purse tae your wife, gie her yer breeks tae the bargain.

The deils aye guid tae his ain.

Scottish

Ne'er marry a widow unless her first man was hanged.

As cankered as a coo wi' ae horn.

Gin ye hadna been amang the craws ye wadna hae been shot.

Hanging's sair on the e'esicht.

We can drink o' the burn when we canna' bite o' the brae.

Far away fowls hae fine feathers.

Leave welcome ahint ye.

National Proverbs

We can poind for debt, but no for unkindness.

Ye ca' hardest at the nail that drives the fastest.

A bonnie bride's soon buskit.

A mear's shoe will fit a horse.

He gaes lang barefit that waits on dead men's shoon.

He has a saw for a' sairs.

Guid claes open a' doors.

Scottish

Fair folk are aye fushionless.

Far sought an' dear bought is good for ladies.

Every man can guide an ill wife weel but him that has her.

Friends gree best sindry.

Now is now—Yule's i' the winter.

I ken him as weel as if I had gaen through him wi' a lichted can'le.

It's no lost what a freend gets.

National Proverbs

Love yer freens an' look tae yersel.

Lauch at leisure, ye may greet ere nicht.

Ne'er draw your dirk when a dunt will do.

Nane are sae weel as they that hope to be better.

My market's made, ye may kiss a whup-shaft.

Coont again is no forbidden.

Scottish

Naething's got without pains but an ill name.

A quarrelsome tyke comes limping hame.

A shave aff a new-cut loaf's ne'er missed.

Bairns are certain care but nae sure joy.

Hearts may gree though heads may differ.

Gaunting bodes want o' ane o' three things—sleep, meat or guid company.

Fair maidens carry nae purses.

A guid tale's nane the waur o' bein' twice tauld.

As lang lives the merry man as the sad.

In ower muckle clavering truth is lost.

Scottish

Every bean has its black.

He who tells his wife a' is but newly married.

O' a little, tak a little ; when there's naught, tak a'.

Marry abune yer match an' get yer maister.

The grace o' a grey bannock is in the baking o't.

A's yours frae the door oot.

National Proverbs

A man may spit on his neive an' do but little.

An ill plea should be well pled.

Poor folk's friends soon misken them.

Ony thing for you about an honest man's house but a day's wark.

Next to nae wife a gude ane's best.

Aye in a hurry ; aye ahint.

Scottish

God comes wi' leaden feet, but strikes wi' iron hands.

A dog winna yowl if you fell him wi' a bane.

A rich man's wooing's no lang a-doing.

Double charges rive cannons.

Before ye choose a friend, eat a peck o' saut wi' him.

Ca' canny an' flee laigh.

The blin' man's peck should be well measured.

The Englishman greets, the Irishman sleeps, but the Scotchman gangs till he gets it.

A hungry man has aye a lazy cook.

Do as the lassies do—say "No," an' tak' it.

Come unca'd, sit unserv'd.

Scottish

Courtesy is cumbersome to him that kens it na.

Barefooted folk shouldna tread on thorns.

Experience keeps a dear schule, but fools will learn in nae ither.

That will be when the de'ils blin' an' he's no blear-e'ed yet.

Send you to the sea an' ye'll no get saut water.

National Proverbs

Ower muckle hameliness spoils good courtesy.

Mair are drooned in drink than in water.

Marry for love an' work for siller.

Gie ower while the play's good.

Heedna "says" or ye'll ne'er sit at ease.

Foul water slockens fire.

Measure twice, cut but once.

Scottish

Nae swat, nae sweet.

Nae freend like the penny.

Send yer gentle bluid tae the market an' see what it'll buy.

Pigs may whustle, but they hae an ill mooth for it.

A gaun fits' aye gettin,' were it but a thorn or a broken tae.

A good lawyer may be an ill neighbour.

National Proverbs

Eagles flee alane, but sheep haud thegither.

Bachelors' wives an' auld maids' bairns are aye weel bred.

Dirt bodes luck.

Eat your fill but pouch nane, is the gardener's law.

Dinna lee for want o' news.

He that stumbles twice at a stane deserves to break his shin bane.

Scottish

He left his siller in his ither pooch.

A fisherman's walk—twa steps and overboard.

A greedy e'e ne'er got a guid pennyworth.

Fules ravel and wise men redd.

He has a guid judgment that doesna lippen tae his ain.

The greedy man an' the cook are sure freends.

National Proverbs

Put twa pennies in a purse, an' they'll creep thegither.

Keep guid company, an' ye'll be coonted ane o' them.

Put a coward on his mettle an' he'll fight the deil.

The de'il's aye guid tae beginners.

Lock yer door and keep yer neeboors honest.

O' a' ills, nane's best.

Scottish

Quick, for ye'll ne'er be cleanly.

It's ower weel hoarded that canna be found.

Little does the poor gude, an' as little get they.

Sae mony men, sae mony minds.

Naething's ill to be dune when will's at hame.

The deil's a busy bishop in his ain diocese.

National Proverbs

Maidens want naething but a man, an' then they want a' thing.

Mony ane kisses the bairn for love o' the nurse.

Keep yer ain cart grease for yer ain cart wheels.

Ill-won gear winna enrich the third heir.

Look before you loup, ye'll ken better how tae light.

Scottish

Every man toots his ain horn best.

If this be a feast I hae been at mony.

Tak wit wi' your anger.

Lang and sma', guid for naething ava.

Jeddart justice—first hang a man, then try him.

A dirty hand maks a clean hearth-stane.

National Proverbs

Law's costly; tak a pint an' gree.

Wae's the wife that wants her tongue, but weel's the man that's got her.

The de'il's bairns hae aye their daddy's luck.

Ye cut lang whangs oot o' ither folks leather.

We can live without our kin, but no without our neebours.

Scottish

Keep hame, and hame will keep you.

A wee bush is better than nae beild.

Ae hand winna wash the ither for nowt.

Fleas an' a girnin' wife are wakerife bedfellows.

Every man's tale is guid till anither's be tauld.

National Proverbs

Gude ware maks a quick market.

A' are na maidens that wear bare hair.

Better wooed o'er midden nor o'er moss.

When you are serv'd a' the geese are watered.

He that does his turn in time sits hauf idle.

If a' things are true that's nae lee.

Scottish

He's auld an' cauld, and ill to lie beside.

He shud sit fu still that has a riven breek.

It's an ill fight where he that wins has the warst o't.

He that blaws on stoor fills his ain e'en.

Ilka man as he likes: I'm for the cook.

National Proverbs

Gunpowder is hasty eldin.

I would not be deeved wi your keckling for a' your eggs.

Better a lean horse than a toom halter.

He'll whistle a lerrick out o' the lift.

Buy what you dinna want, an youl'l sell what you canna spare.

Scottish

A' the wealth o' the warld is i' the weather.

God send ye readier meat than a runnin' hare.

Marry a beggar an' get a louse for a tocher.

He had guid skill o' horse flesh who bought a goose to ride on.

Serve yoursel' till your bairns grow up.

National Proverbs

It's a sair time when the moose looks oot o' the meal barrow wi' a tear in its e'e.

The redder's lick is aye the warst o' the battle.

Ne'er seek a wife till you ken what to do wi' her.

It's nae lauchin' tae girn in a widdy.

His eggs hae a' twa yolks.

Scottish

He'll either mak' a spune or spoil a horn.

A guid Scotch louse is aye haddin' south.

Everythin' has an end, but a puddin' has twa.

Guid folks are scarce: tak care o' me.

The loodest bummer's no the best bee.

National Proverbs

Your head's nae sooner up than your stomach's yappin.

Folks talk o' my drink, but never talk o' my drouth.

That's well awa', as the husband said when his wife swallowed her tongue.

I'll pay you, an' put naething in your pooch.

Fu' o' courtesy, fu' o' craft.

Scottish

A man may love a haggis that wouldna hae the bag bladded in his teeth.

A kiss and a drink o' water is but a wersh disjune.

A man is of little use when his wife's a widow.

Aye take the fee when the tear's in the e'e.

He lo'ed mutton that licked where the ewie lay.

National Proverbs

A toom pooch gaes quickly through the market.

You may drive the deil into a wife, but ye'll ne'er ding him oot o' her.

The Scot will not fight till he sees his ain bluid.

A dog's life—muckle ease an' muckle hunger.

He's awfu' big ahint the door.

Scottish

Your purse was steiket when that was paid for.

The banes o' a great estate are worth picking.

Gin a body be gaun doon the brae ilka ane 'ill gie him a jundy.

Better fush saut than fush stinkin'.

Ae saint maks twenty sinners.

A' cracks are no to be trowed.

National Proverbs

There's baith meat an' music here, quo' the dog, when he ate the piper's bag.

Better play for naething than work for naething.

He blushes like a beggar at a bawbee.

It's an awfu' sign o' rain when you hear it amon' the cabbage.

Mony a ane would blush to hear what he wouldna blush to do.

A man may see his friend in need that winna see his pow bleed.

The wife's aye welcome that comes wi' a crooked oxter.

It's aye guid to be ceevil, as the auld wife said when she beckit to the de'il.

Twa hands may do in ae dish but ne'er in ae purse.

Better haud by a hair than draw by a tether.

He gangs awa at an ill time that ne'er comes back again.

There never was a slut but had a slit, there never was a daw but had twa.

Scottish

A thrawn question should hae a thrawart answer.

A groanin' wife and a gruntin' horse ne'er failed their master.

Saut, quoth the souter, when he had eaten the coo a' but the tail.

He would tine his lugs if they were no tacked to him.

Auld wives were aye guid maidens.

He that has but a e'e maun tent that weel.

A wife's ae dochter is neither guid nor gracey.

Mony a thing's made for the penny, as the auld wife said, when she saw a black man.

King's cheese goes hauf away in pairings.

Scottish

It's easier to big lums than keep them reeking.

She brak her elbow at the kirk door.

When ilka ane gets their ain the thief will get the widdy.

Ye'll learn your faither to get bairns.

Lang may yer lum reek.

National Proverbs

He canna haud meal in his mou' an' blaw.

You're like the man as lept o'er the mare, you cannot do but you o'er-do.

Gin the lift fa' there'll be catchin' o' lerricks.

Muckle cry and little woo', as the deil said when he clippit the soo.

Muckle has, would aye hae mair.

Scottish

You're ane o' the tender Gordons, you're feared to be hang't for hurting your neck.

A new pair o' breeks will cast down an auld coat.

Ye hae guid mainners, but ye dinna cairry them aboot wi' ye.

A dish o' married love sune grows cauld.

Dumb men win nae land.

National Proverbs

The e'enin' brings a' hame.

A man at five may be a fool at fifteen.

Auld folks are twice bairns.

He's ower auld a cat tae draw a straw afore.

Eat-weel's Drink-weel's brither.

Ae hour in the morning is worth twa after noon.

Scottish

Better bow to my faes than beg from my friends.

He's worth nae weel that can bide nae wae.

Nane can make a bore but ye'll find a pin till't.

He has muckle prayer but little devotion.

Every man bows tae the bush he gets beild frae.

Guid watch hinders harm.

Better unborn than untaught.

In the frost the nail is worth the horse.

Canna' has nae craft.

Nae weather's ill if the wind be still

We'll meet ere hill's meet.

Scottish

We'll bark oorsels' ere we buy dogs sae dear.

Ill payers are aye guid cravers.

The happy man canna be herried.

Wark bears witness o' wha does weel.

Ower many grieves hinder the wark.

See for love an' buy for money.

GLOSSARY

a'	all
aboot	about
abune	above
ae	one
an'	if (occasionally)
aff	off
ahint	behind
ain	own
alane	alone
ance	once
ane	one
a' thing	everything
auld	old
ava	at all
aye	always
baith	both
bane	bone
bannet	bonnet, cap
bannock	a round, flat cake, generally of oatmeal
bauchle	slipper
bauldly	boldly
bawbee	half-penny
beckit	curtsied
beild	shelter
besom	broom
big	build
binks	benches
bladded	slapped
blaw	blow
bleare'ed	blear eyed
blin'	blind
bluid	blood
bocht	bought
bodes	presages
body	person
brae	hill
brak	break, broke
braw	fine, handsome
brocht	brought
bummer	buzzer
burn	stream
buskit	dressed, adorned
ca'	knock
ca' canny	to drive softly or manage cautiously
ca'd	called (sometimes 'knocked')
cankered	peevish, ill-tempered
can'le	candle
canna'	cannot
cauld	cold
causey	pavement, causeway
chancy	lucky, fortunate
chanter	the fingering part of a bagpipe
chiel	child or person
claes	clothes
claverin'	gossipping, chattering

cockit	set jauntily
collop	portion, slice
coo	cow
coont	count
cracks	chats
craigie	steading, home
craws	crows
crawed	crowed
creish	grease
croon	the crown, the top of anything
crouse	bold, brisk, cheerful
cumbersome	clumsy, encumbering
daw	sluggard
dee'd	died
deeved	deafened
de'il	devil
ding	knock
dinna	do not
dirk	dagger
disjune	breakfast
doesna or disna	does not
dochter	daughter
dook	milk (local meaning)
dour	sorrow, fatigue
drap	drop
dree	to endure, or undergo
drooned	drowned
drouth	thirst
dune	done
dung	beaten
dunt	punch, a blow
e'e	eye
e'enin'	evening
eild	age
eith	easy, easily
eldin	fuel
enuch	enough
ewie	ewe
fa'	fall
farrer	further
fashed	troubled
fat	what
faut	fault
fit	foot
flee	fly
flees	flies
fleying	to frighten or scare
forgie	forgive
fouk	folk
frae	from
frichted	frightened
fule	fool
fush	fish
fushionless	insipid
gaen	gone
gait	way, or fashion
gangs	goes
gar	make
gaun	going
gaunting	yawning
gear	goods

GLOSSARY

gentle	well-born, gentlemanly
gie	give
gin	if
girn	grin
glower	gaze, scowl
gracey	well behaved
graip	a dung fork
gree	agree
greets	weeps
grumphin'	grunting
gude	good
guid	good
guidit	guided
ha'	hall
hadden	held
haddin'	holding, going
hae	have
haggis	a sheep's maw, containing the minced lungs, heart and liver of the sheep mixed and cooked with oatmeal, suet, onions, pepper, and salt
hairst	harvest
hame	home
hameliness	homeliness
hangit	hanged
hantle	good many
haud	hold
hauden	holden
hauf-dune	half-done
haun	hand
heedna'	heed not
hecht	height
heid	head
het	heated
hinmost	hindmost
hoose	house
ilka	each
ill	bad
ills	evils
ill-willy	ill-natured
ingle	fire
ither	other
kail	broth made of greens
keckling	cackling
keeks	peeps
ken	know
kenna	know not
kent	known
kin	kindred
kirk	church
kitchen	relish or season to food
laigh	low
lang	long
lauch	laugh
lauchin'	laughing
lave	remainder

lee	lie
len'	lend
lerricks	larks
lichted	lighted
lift	sky
lippen	trust
lo'ed	loved
loup	leap
louse	lice
lout	bow
lowe	fire
lowse	loose
lugs	ears
M'Gie	a play on 'gie' or give
M'Tak	a play on 'tak' or 'take'
mainners	manners
mair	more
maks	makes
maun	must
mauna	must not
mear	mare
midden	dunghill
middle	meddle, interfere
misken	fail to recognise
mony	many
moose	mouse
mou'	mouth
muckle	much or big
mune	moon
nae	no
naething	nothing
nane	none
neive	hand, fist
naysays	refusals
neebors	neighbours
niffers	bargains, higgles
no	not
o'	of
oo	wool
oot	out
ower	over
oxter	arm. Strictly speaking, the armpit. A 'crookit oxter' suggests something carried
pat	pot
pet	tiff
pit	put
ploo	plough
poind	sue
pooch	pocket
pow	head
powney	pony
prood	proud
ravel	to tangle, or put in confusion
raw	a kind of street

GLOSSARY

' redder's lick '	the blow that falls to one who tries to part combatants
redd	untangle, or put straight
reeking	smoking
remead	remedy
richt	right
rive	burst
riven	burst
routh	plenty
sae	so
sair	sore, painful
saut	salt
saw	salve, or ointment
scarten'	scratching
schule	school
ser'	serve
shave	slice
shoudna	should not
shoon	shoes
siller	silver
sindry	asunder, apart
sliddery	slippery
slocken	slake, quench
slut	dirty, worthless woman
sma'	small
snaw	snow
soo	sow
soom	swim
soor	sour
souter	cobbler
sowder	solder, combine
spail	splinter or chip
spune	spoon
stane	stone
steekit	shut, fastened
stoor	smoke
stots	young bull
sumph	blockhead
sune	soon
swat	sweat
sweer	sour
synd	rinse
tae	to
tae	toe
tangs	prongs of a fork
tauld	told
tent	guard, care
thegither	together
thole	bear
thrawart	perverse, ill-tempered
thrawn	perverse, ill-tempered
till	to
tine	lose
tocher	dowrie
tod	fox
toom	empty
toots	blows
twa	two

trowed	believed
tyke	dog
unca'd	uncalled
wa'	wall
wae's	sad is
wake-rife	sleepless
wales	choose, selects
wame	belly
wan	won, or got
wants	lacks
wark	work
warst	worst
waur	worse
weel	well
weird	fate
wersh	tasteless
whangs	thongs, slices
wha's	whose
whup-shaft	whip-shaft
whustle	whistle
wi'	with
widdy	gallows
winna	will not
woo'	wool
wrang	wrong
yappin'	crying for food
ye	you
yer	your
yowl	howl

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